

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04353 251650Z
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 EB-08 /018 W
-----251752 045903 /47

R 250932Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9604
INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

UNCLAS BANGKOK 4353

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, TH
SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

REF: A) STATE 040223, B) STATE 028629, C) 76 BANGKOK 30940

1. PIPELINE TECHNOLOGISTS, INC., HOUSTON, TEXAS, HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED A PIPELINE ROUTE STUDY AT REQUEST UNION OIL CO., AND RECOMMENDED THAT A PIPELINE BE LAID FROM NATURAL GAS DEPOSITS OFF SONGKHLA PROVINCE TO SATTAHIP AND THEN TO A PROPOSED ELECTRICITY GENERATING AUTHORITY OF THAILAND (EGAT) POWER PLANT SOUTH OF BANGKOK. PIPELINE WOULD EXTEND APPROXIMATELY 400 MILES UNDERWATER AND 100 MILES ON LAND. UNION OIL COMPANY AND TENNECO/TEXAS PACIFIC CONSORTIUM HAVE MADE DISCOVERIES WHICH MAY PROVE TO BE COMMERCIALY VIABLE. HOWEVER, ADDITIONAL DELINEATION OF FIELDS IS STILL REQUIRED AND SPUDDING OF PRODUCTION WELLS WILL IN ALL LIKELIHOOD BE HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT ON GAS PRICE STRUCTURE.

2. IN DECEMBER 1976, THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY RETAINED SOFREGAZ, A FRENCH FIRM, TO DO A MARKET SURVEY AND BRITISH GAS CORPORATION AS CONSULTANT FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH UNION OIL COMPANY ON GAS PRICE STRUCTURE. SOFREGAZ IS SCHEDULED TO SUBMIT AN INTERIM REPORT IN MARCH AND A FINAL REPORT IN MAY 1977. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT A GAS PRICE AGREEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED PRIOR TO JUNE 1, 1977.

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3. BANGKOK OFFICE OF WORLD BANK HAS TAKEN ACTIVE INTEREST IN PROJECT. MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST HAS INVITED MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY OFFICIAL TO PIPELINE FINANCING SEMINAR IN THE UNITED STATES. RTG PETROLEUM COMMITTEE IS PREPARING DRAFT LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A NATURAL GAS ORGANIZATION WHICH WOULD BE THE OPERATING BODY FOR SALE OF NATURAL GAS IN THAILAND.

4. THE APPROPRIATE RTG OFFICIAL TO BE CONTACTED IN REGARD
TO THIS MATTER IS:

MR. PISOOT SUDASNA
DIRECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY
RAMA VI ROAD
BANGKOK, THAILAND
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 3234845
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: NATURAL GAS PIPELINE
TAGS: BENC, TH
To: STATE
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